(a) whether Government have taken any decision to check the hostile attitude of the witnesses before the Magistrate which ultimately result in the acquittal of the accused; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and by when an amendment in the Cr. P.C. is likely to be made and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) To prevent the evil of witness turning hostile, a Bill namely, the Criminal Law (Amendment) Bill, 2003 was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 22nd August, 2003 which, *inter alia,* proposed to amend Sections 161,162 and 344 and to insert new sections 164A and 344A of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973. The proposed amendments, require that the statements of all persons which appear to be material and essential for proper investigation of the case relating to offences punishable with death or imprisonment for seven years or more shall be recorded on oath by Magistrate who will also satisfy himself that such person is making the statement voluntarily and not under any inducement, threat or promise. Also, it has been proposed to have a provision for summary trial for perjury and to enhance the punishment for perjury after the summary trial.

Opening of station in Srinagar by UK Police

820. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that UK police is planning to open a station in Srinagar in an attempt to deal with criminal who target Britain from India;

(b) whether UK Government have made any request, formal or informal to allow the UK police to open a base in Srinagar for the purpose; and

(c) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Road accidents in Delhi

821. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state: